

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

4. (Currently Amended) An ~~catheter device~~ ablative stent and delivery system comprising:

an elongated catheter body extending to a tip assembly ~~for delivering effective to deliver~~ a stent to a position in a vessel; and

a stent ~~carried~~ removably disposed in said tip assembly, the stent being self-expanding and configured to lodge in a pulmonary vein proximate to the ostium thereof be implanted and deployed within the vessel, and wherein the stent includes a first region along its length for ablative surface contact with an inner wall of the pulmonary vein vessel, said first region subtending a substantially complete circumference of the inner wall of the pulmonary vein interior wall vessel, whereby wherein application of energy to the stent is effective to ablates a circumferential path effective to block signals ~~generated within the vein from conduction across the ostium~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~catheter device~~ ablative stent and delivery system of claim 4, wherein the ~~catheter stent and system~~ include ~~includes~~ an energy delivery line extending to said tip assembly, and ~~means for releasably connecting~~ connected ~~the energy delivery line~~ to the stent.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~catheter device~~ ablative stent and delivery system of claim 5, ~~wherein said means for releasably connecting includes~~ further including a fusible link that releasably connects the energy delivery line to the stent.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~catheter device~~ ablative stent and delivery system of claim 6, wherein said ~~means for releasably connecting~~ fusible link includes a mechanical linkage.